



## Early Journal Content on JSTOR, Free to Anyone in the World

This article is one of nearly 500,000 scholarly works digitized and made freely available to everyone in the world by JSTOR.

Known as the Early Journal Content, this set of works include research articles, news, letters, and other writings published in more than 200 of the oldest leading academic journals. The works date from the mid-seventeenth to the early twentieth centuries.

We encourage people to read and share the Early Journal Content openly and to tell others that this resource exists. People may post this content online or redistribute in any way for non-commercial purposes.

Read more about Early Journal Content at <http://about.jstor.org/participate-jstor/individuals/early-journal-content>.

JSTOR is a digital library of academic journals, books, and primary source objects. JSTOR helps people discover, use, and build upon a wide range of content through a powerful research and teaching platform, and preserves this content for future generations. JSTOR is part of ITHAKA, a not-for-profit organization that also includes Ithaka S+R and Portico. For more information about JSTOR, please contact [support@jstor.org](mailto:support@jstor.org).

# PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

## MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL SOCIETY.

---

ANNUAL MEETING, APRIL 8, 1858.

THE SOCIETY held their annual meeting, April 8, 1858, at their rooms in Tremont Street, Boston; the President, Hon. ROBERT C. WINTHROP, in the chair.

The Librarian communicated donations from the City of Boston; the Howard Association, Norfolk, Va.; the Maryland Historical Society; the Nashville Chamber of Commerce; the New-York State Agricultural Society; General J. Watts De Peyster; Rev. William B. Sprague, D.D.; John E. Ward, Esq.; Benjamin R. Winthrop, Esq.; William Winthrop, Esq.; C. C. Haven, Esq.; S. F. Barstow, Esq.; Hon. S. H. Walley; George Gardner, Esq.; Rev. J. A. Vinton; Messrs. Bangs Brothers and Co.; and S. S. and W. Wood; also from Messrs. Bowditch, Hedge, Robbins, Savage, Sibley, and Wheatland, of the Society.

The Corresponding Secretary communicated a correspondence between himself and the Executive of Penn-

sylvania; also a letter of acceptance from Hon. Stephen Salisbury, of Worcester.

The President announced the publication of a new volume of the Society's Collections; being vol. iv. of the Fourth Series. Whereupon, on motion of Mr. ADAMS, it was voted, —

That the thanks of the Society be given to the Hon. Richard Frothingham, jun., and the gentlemen associated with him on the Publishing Committee, for their valuable and highly satisfactory services in the preparation and publication of the volume which they have this day added to the Society's Collections.

The President communicated a letter from Leverett Saltonstall, Esq., accompanying and presenting to the Society a highly finished portrait of his ancestor, Sir Richard Saltonstall, copied from an original by Rembrandt, painted in 1644, — a gift of Charles Sanders, Esq.

Mr. Saltonstall's letter was as follows: —

BOSTON, April 7, 1858.

To the Hon. R. C. WINTHROP,

President of the Massachusetts Historical Society.

MY DEAR SIR, — I have sent to the rooms of the Massachusetts Historical Society, at the request of my uncle, Mr. Charles Sanders of Cambridge, a copy of the portrait of Sir Richard Saltonstall.

The original portrait, painted by Rembrandt in the year 1644 (Sir Richard being ambassador to Holland at the time), is a most admirable work of art. He was, as you are aware, the first-named associate of the six original patentees of Massachusetts; one of the first assistants; and with Viscount Say and Seal, Lord Brooke, and others, was one of the patentees

of Connecticut. In April, A.D. 1630, with your illustrious ancestor, Governor Winthrop, he sailed in the "Arbella," from Yarmouth for Salem, where he arrived the 12th June of that year. There is every reason to believe, that though he remained on these shores not quite a year, yet, leaving his sons to help in the good work, he ever retained the strongest affection for the home of their adoption; and, by his efficient superintendence of its interests in England, was of eminent service to the Colony. Dr. Bond, in his History of Watertown, after briefly reviewing his services, says, "A character in all points so exemplary, so good, and so great, so exempt from any seeming blemish or defect, it is not easy to find among the early worthies of New England; and his honorable descent, and the superior social position so evidently conceded to him by the other adventurers, are feeble claims to our respect, compared with his eminent personal worth."

Mr. Sanders told me that his great admiration for the pure, liberal, and high-toned character of Sir Richard Saltonstall, induced him to present his portrait to the Massachusetts Historical Society. Hoping that I shall be understood as simply carrying out my uncle's request in this matter,

I am, my dear sir, with sincere regard,

Your very obedient servant,

LEVERETT SALTONSTALL.

Mr. ASPINWALL, after a few remarks relating to the character and family of Sir Richard Saltonstall, offered the following vote, which was unanimously passed; viz., *Voted*, That the thanks of the Society be presented to Charles Sanders, Esq., for his valuable and beautiful contribution to its Gallery of Historical Paintings.

Mr. BRIGHAM, Chairman of the Standing Committee, presented the Annual Report of that Committee; which was accepted. It was as follows; viz.: —

*Report of the Standing Committee.*

The Standing Committee of the Massachusetts Historical Society, in obedience to the requisitions of the By-laws, beg leave to make their Annual Report:—

They are happy to report the continued prosperity and success of the Society during the past year; a success that is made evident in the increased interest and generous contributions of its friends, in our larger and more interesting meetings, rather than in any marked event, such as distinguished its history the preceding year.

The Report of the Librarian will show the deep interest which the members and friends of the Society have felt in the library. More than one thousand valuable volumes and pamphlets have been added to it by contribution the last year. These have come, not only from members and friends of the Society at home, but from foreign governments, associations, and individuals abroad. There has been no year, since the formation of the Society, when so valuable contributions to the library have been made from so many different sources as during the past year. They evince a deep and wide interest in its prosperity; and it is a source of sincere gratification, that so many persons and associations should have made our Society the depository of so many valuable books, pamphlets, manuscripts, and papers. We would express our gratitude to all such benefactors, and will assure them that the treasures so generously placed in our charge will be carefully and faithfully preserved.

Our library, including the Dowse Library, now contains upwards of thirteen thousand bound volumes, twelve thousand pamphlets, and a great amount of valuable manuscripts, papers, and maps, — tending to illustrate our early history, and the memorable actors in that history. The most valuable papers and manuscripts which have been added

the last year are the papers of the late Dr. Belknap, and the diary of the late Dr. Pierce; the receipt of the first of which was most gratefully acknowledged at the last stated meeting of our Society. The diary of Dr. Pierce comprises eighteen volumes, and is now placed in our library according to the provisions of his last will; thereby showing his deep interest in the Society of which he was so useful a member, as well as his confidence in selecting it as the guardian of a treasure so dear to him, and which must eventually be of great public interest.

The Committee have made such examination of the library as they were able to do without the aid of a catalogue: and they are happy to report that it is in good order; and, so far as they were able to ascertain, not a volume has been lost during the year.

During the past two years, five portraits have been added to our collection, — one, of the late Samuel Appleton, procured by the Society in grateful remembrance of him as one of our most generous benefactors; another, of our ex-President, whose presence here to-day prevents our saying one tithe of what we would gladly say of his valuable services to our Society, as well as to American history; another, of our oldest resident and honored members; and two others, of the early fathers of New England, — that of John Winthrop, jun., formerly Governor of Connecticut; and of Sir Richard Saltonstall. All of these, except the first named, were gifts to the Society; and the generosity of the donors, as well as the value of the gifts, has been most gratefully acknowledged.

A catalogue of the library, manuscripts, and maps, has been prepared by the Assistant Librarian, under direction of the Standing Committee; and it is now nearly ready for the press. It will make a volume of about a thousand pages; and, when completed, will be of great value. It is made thus large from the fact, that, in it, every book, pamphlet, manuscript, and map, in the library, are referred to. The entire

cost of publication will be about twelve hundred dollars ; and the Committee will be glad to cause it to be printed as soon as the financial condition of the Society shall authorize it. They fully appreciate the importance of completing a work which is really so much needed, and without which the library loses half its value.

The Society now own nearly five thousand volumes of their own publications. During the last year, they have sold several entire sets ; but the whole number of volumes thus disposed of is only two hundred and sixty-nine. It is desirable to dispose of many of the remaining volumes, both on account of the aid it would afford the Society, as well as to extend more widely the valuable information they contain. The Standing Committee recommend that a Special Committee be chosen by the Society to devise some scheme for a more speedy sale of these volumes, and to report thereon.

The Report of the Cabinet-Keeper will show, that, in that department, our friends have not been wanting. Valuable additions have been made to it. The Committee, however, cannot but regret that the treasures of our cabinet are not better arranged, and made more accessible ; so that our members, at least, may know what we possess. At present, the most valuable part of our cabinet is kept out of sight ; and but a few of our members know any thing of its real value and importance. It may be generally known, that among our valuable curiosities may be found the swords of Standish and Brewster, the coat of Dr. Franklin, and the epaulets of Washington ; yet a thousand other objects of great interest are never heard of, because there is no opportunity of displaying them.

This state of things should not continue. Our indefatigable Cabinet-Keeper does all he can ; and it would seem that he can hardly do better, at present, than to keep the cabinet safely locked up.

The Committee hope that the time is not far distant when the Society will be able to fit our upper room in this building in a suitable manner for a portrait-gallery and for the cabinet. It is large enough for both, and will probably be large enough to accommodate all accessions for many years. Here the cabinet could be so arranged in glass cases as to be not only perfectly safe, but visible to every one; and, when once done, our institution would seem to be almost complete in its arrangements.

This subject has long engaged the attention of the Committee; and they now recommend that a Special Committee be appointed to act and advise with the Cabinet-Keeper as to an arrangement of the cabinet, and to report such plans of improvement as they shall deem expedient, and to make an estimate of the expense thereof.

The fourth volume of the Fourth Series of our publications has just been published; and much credit is due to the Publishing Committee for the faithful manner in which their work has been performed. According to our By-laws, a new Committee must be now appointed to prepare and publish another volume. This is well; but it has occurred to the Standing Committee, and the wish has often been expressed by members, that measures should be adopted to print and publish the Proceedings of our meetings, or such parts of them as would be of permanent interest. The Committee are not prepared to present any plan for this purpose; but they suggest it as a matter deserving the consideration of the Society, and as a means of giving new interest to our meetings.

The Committee, on the termination of their labors, congratulate the Society on its present prosperity and its future prospects; and they only regret that they have not been able to serve the Society more effectually and profitably.

All which is respectfully submitted.

For the Committee.

WILLIAM BRIGHAM, *Chairman.*



The Annual Reports of the Librarian and Cabinet-Keeper were read and accepted, as follows:—

*Annual Report of the Librarian.*

In complying with the regulation which requires him “to present, at the annual meeting, a statement of the condition and wants of the library, with a notice of the important accessions that have been made to it during the year,” the Librarian feels that there is good cause for him to congratulate the Society on the present condition of the library, on the large accessions which have recently been made to it, and on the fact, that while it still has wants,—as every institution of the kind must ever have,—yet many of these have been met, during the past year, by donations of rare and precious value.

The Society has now in its rooms about thirteen thousand bound volumes. Eight thousand of these are the slow accumulation of more than sixty years, and constitute the Society’s library proper. Five thousand compose the Dowse Library, the noble gift of that extraordinary man—Thomas Dowse—to this Society, among whose members, and within whose walls, his name and memory can never cease to be honored.

In addition to these bound volumes, there are about twelve thousand pamphlets, so arranged in cases as to be easily accessible. The library has been more largely used during the past than in any former year. This use has consisted chiefly in the visits of members of the Society, or of others introduced by them according to the Rules, to read, examine, and consult books in the rooms, without taking them from the library. The agreeable aspect and accommodations of the Society’s rooms will probably lead to a constant increase of this mode of using the library; although the record shows, that, during the past year, a much larger

number of volumes than usual have been taken out. All that have been taken out have been returned, and in good order: no book has received any injury that has been noticed, and no book has been lost. One volume, "Velancey on the Primitive Inhabitants of Great Britain," that had been missing more than twenty years (since December, 1835), has been recovered.

There are two books missing, which it is very desirable should be recovered; viz., Young's "Chronicles of the Pilgrims," and Sargent's "History of Braddock's Expedition." They have been missing since 1856. In that year, our books were removed from the room now occupied by the Dowse Library, to be re-arranged on the new shelves in the middle room; and, for some months, our library and rooms were in a confused state. It may be, that, at that time, these books were taken out by some member, or members; and, owing to the confusion alluded to above, no record was made; and consequently the fact has passed from the minds of the members and of the Assistant Librarian. The loss is mentioned here, and in connection with the removal of our books, that gentlemen may be led to challenge their memories, and examine their shelves and bookcases; so that, peradventure, these volumes, ignorantly retained, may be joyfully restored to us.

The accessions to the library the past year have been unusually large and valuable. There have been received four hundred and sixty-nine printed volumes; twenty-nine manuscript volumes, including the diary of the Rev. John Pierce, D.D., in eighteen volumes; four smaller manuscripts; nine bound volumes of newspapers; three volumes unbound; five hundred and sixteen pamphlets; seven maps; and last, but not least, the books, papers, and various manuscripts, of the late Rev. Jeremy Belknap, D.D., who, more distinctly than any other person, is entitled to the honor of being styled the Founder of the Massachusetts His-

torical Society. The various items of donations to the library for the past year, counting volumes, pamphlets, manuscripts, &c., amount, in all, to more than a thousand, — probably about twelve hundred. They have been received from one hundred and four different sources. The individual contributors are eighty-three; civic governments, literary societies, and other associations, twenty-one. Of the individual contributors, twenty-one are Resident or Honorary Members of our Society. Of the bound volumes and manuscripts received during the year, a very considerable portion are of such value, that they might properly come within the rule which requires the Librarian “to notice the important accessions.” A strict conformity to this rule, in this instance, would swell this Report to an undue length. Only the *most* important can be briefly noticed.

Among the manuscripts received, attention may be directed, first, to nine volumes of Spanish manuscripts, presented by W. H. Whitmore, Esq. All of these, judging from their titles, seem to be curious and interesting; and some of them — viz., “The Rebellion in Grenada in 1578;” “The Treaties of Peace made during the Reign of Carlos II.,” bearing date 1665; “A New System of Government for America, by Don Campellio y Corrio,” without date — have probably considerable value as historical documents. Two other manuscripts may be mentioned, recently received from William Winthrop, Esq., United-States Consul at Malta: the one, “Drawings of the Arms, or Escutcheons, of the Knights of Malta;” the other, “Plans of all the Forts and Harbors of the Mediterranean.” These manuscripts are without date. The latter is unquestionably very ancient, and is beautifully executed.

The memoirs, or diary, of Rev. Dr. Pierce, eighteen volumes manuscript, were presented by him to the Society in his will. At the request of the widow, they have remained in her possession. Upon her death, a few weeks ago, the executor,

Mr. Charles Stoddard, sent them to the library. They are now in the hands of a Special Committee to consider under what restrictions and regulations they must be placed, that no improper and unwise use be made of their contents. With the exception, perhaps, of some of the earlier portions, the value of these manuscripts is prospective, rather than immediate; but, from what we know of the character of Dr. Pierce, — from his large sympathies, which brought him into constant and friendly intercourse with persons of all political and religious parties; his minuteness and accuracy in collecting facts and details; his intimate connection with the principal men and events of this community for more than fifty years, — there can be no doubt, that, to the future historian and biographer, these volumes will be a mine of much curious, authentic, and valuable information. A file of documents recently received from George Gardner, Esq., relating to the early history of the Boston Town House, may also be mentioned as an interesting addition to our manuscript Collections.

Last in the order received, but first in importance and interest to the Society, are the various papers and manuscripts of Dr. Belknap. Among these are, first, A large number of sermons; covering, probably, a considerable portion, if not the whole period, of his ministry. These are of little historical value; but, from their association with their author, they will be regarded with interest, and carefully preserved by this Society.

Second, Letters received in the correspondence which he had with many distinguished persons in New England, while collecting materials for his "History of New Hampshire." These letters are carefully preserved and indexed by himself. Many of them are interesting and valuable, and have never been published.

Third, Materials collected for a complete American Biography. Dr. Belknap died while the second volume of his

"American Biography" was passing through the press. In the brief but admirable notice of him prefixed to that volume, the writer — probably the late Judge Davis — speaks of Dr. Belknap's plan for compiling and publishing a complete "American Biography," and of the valuable materials which he had collected and partially arranged for that purpose; some of which, he says, "are in such a state of preparation, that they might be readily fitted for the press, if the public opinion should countenance the publication, and the tenderness of his friends to his literary reputation should suffer them to present to the world any unfinished production bearing his name." These materials — probably the whole of them — are among the manuscripts which have now come into the possession of this Society.

Fourth, A manuscript volume, lettered on the back, "Harvard College;" indicating that Dr. Belknap contemplated a work on the graduates of that university, and had made considerable progress in preparing it.

Fifth, Various curious and valuable manuscripts; such as, diaries of Increase and Cotton Mather; of Laurence Hammond, of Charlestown; historical memoranda of the Rev. Jabez Fitch, of Portsmouth; of Hugh Adams, of Dover; letters from Dr. Watts to Dr. Coleman; a letter-book of Edmund Quincy, the father of Mrs. Hancock, containing letters written on political subjects during the Revolutionary war; with a large number of miscellaneous letters, covering a long period of time. With these manuscripts are also quite a number of books and pamphlets relating to our history, many of which are very *rare*, and which were wanting in the Society's library. The whole of this Belknap donation is now in the hands of a Committee, to be arranged and put in complete order for preservation, and for consultation by members of the Society and historical students. It is a matter of deep and gratifying interest, that thus, after a period of sixty years, the image of one of the most promi-

ment and honored on the list of our founders should be brought distinctly before us, and this Society made the depository of his valuable books and papers. An appropriate vote of thanks to the donor, for this precious addition to our literary treasures, has already been passed; but the Librarian feels that he should be neglecting a grateful duty, did he omit to allude to the obligations we are under to our distinguished associate, Mr. George Ticknor, for his interest, influence, and services, as the medium of communication through whom this large and valuable donation was made.

Passing from the manuscripts received to the important donations in books, we may notice, first, twenty-three volumes of Dodsley's "Annual Register," presented by our associate, Hon. C. H. Warren. These volumes are consecutive, giving us a complete set of the work, from the first to the twenty-third, with the exception of one volume, — the sixteenth; and covering the period from 1758 to 1780, with the exception of the year 1773, — the period embraced by the sixteenth volume. [Mr. Warren here interrupted the Librarian, to say that he had recently obtained in New York a copy of the sixteenth volume, which, in a few days, he should present to the library.]

We may notice, second, Seven volumes received from the New-York Historical Society, — four volumes of their Collections, Second Series; and three volumes of the Proceedings of the Society from 1843 to 1847.

Third, Thirty-nine volumes from the Society of Antiquarians, London. Most of these volumes are "the Archæologia" of the Society, containing interesting and important tracts relating to antiquities. Several of them are splendid volumes of historical prints, containing plans, elevations, sections, &c., of various cathedrals, churches, &c., in England; one volume, with seventeen plates of the tapestry of Bayeux; and another, with historical prints of the times of Henry VIII. and Edward VI.

Fourth, Forty-two volumes of the Publications of the Record Commission of the Government of Great Britain, received through Mr. Henry Stephens. This is a very valuable donation, though not a complete set of the publications of that commission. The volumes received are full on the "Documentary History of Scotland," and the "Ancient Laws of England and Wales."

Fifth, Thirty volumes from the State Historical Society of Wisconsin. These volumes contain various legislative and other important documents in relation to the history of that young State.

Sixth, Guizot's works, seventeen volumes ; very fine Paris edition, presented by the author, one of our most distinguished Honorary Members. The volumes include all his works up to 1856.

Seventh, Thirty-three volumes received from T. B. Aikins, Record Commissioner of Nova Scotia, — containing the Journals of Proceedings, Records, &c., of the Provincial Parliament of Nova Scotia, and various important documents illustrative of the history of that Province.

Eighth, Twenty-six volumes recently received from William Winthrop, Esq., United-States Consul at Malta. Among these may be mentioned a curious copy of Livy, in Spanish, printed in 1520 at Madrid ; six volumes of old historical tracts, some of which are curious and interesting ; Bomord's "History of England," in folio ; Camden's "Remains," printed in 1622 ; and a fine copy of "Ortelius Theatrum Orbis Terrarum."

Ninth, Eighteen volumes of the Records of Pennsylvania. These were presented, through our Corresponding Secretary, by the Executive of that State ; and, from their relation to its early colonial history, will be justly appreciated as a valuable addition to our library.

Tenth, Ten volumes, presented by S. F. Barstow, Esq., through our associate, Hon. C. H. Warren. Among these

may be noticed eight volumes, containing the "Gallery of British Portraits of the Reigns of James I. and Charles I.;" "History of the Life of the Duke of Espernon;" Drummond's "Travels;" Arnot's "Criminal Trials;" "History of the Troubles of Suethland;" "Life of St. Patrick;" "Life of Edward, the Black Prince;" Howitt's "Life of Louis XIII.;" Howell's "Survey of Venice;" and the works of Sir William Davenant.

Lastly, We may notice a hundred and thirty-one volumes, besides an indefinite number of pamphlets, presented by the honored President of our Society, Mr. Winthrop: viz., forty-one volumes, "Congressional Globe;" forty-two volumes, the "Annals of Congress;" twenty-seven volumes, Gales and Seaton's "Register of Congressional Debates;" and twenty-one volumes, "American State Papers." The character of these works is too well known, and their value and importance as additions to our library are too obvious, to need comment; but the Librarian cannot forbear to allude to the obligations the Society is under to its honored President, as for all his interest and services to promote its prosperity and usefulness, so especially for his large and constant contributions to the library, and for the excellent example which he sets his associates in this particular. Were a like interest felt and like contributions made by each of us according to his ability, many things that are now wanting on our shelves would soon find a place there. We are yet without copies of some works, of which members of this Society are the authors, and which have been published within the year. It is to be hoped that they will soon be placed upon our shelves.

This matter of shelves, however, is one that will speedily demand the attention of the Society, or its Standing Committee. We want more room, especially for folios. We want more room generally for books; and, at the rate at which the library has increased the last two years, some



larger accommodation must soon be provided. As the catalogue — upon which subject the Standing Committee have already reported — is not yet published, it may be interesting and of service to state here the order in which the books of the Society's library are now arranged on the shelves in the middle room. Beginning at the left hand on entering the door from the ante-room, members will find, first, works on law, jurisprudence, legal trials, &c., occupying one compartment. Next come all theological and religious works, sermons, &c., filling two compartments. In the next three compartments, — the fourth, fifth, and sixth, — our various series of periodical publications and similar books are arranged. Among these, the volumes of "American State Papers," "Congressional Debates," &c., — the donation, already noticed, of Mr. Winthrop, — are at present placed. Then come, first, biographical and genealogical works; second, catalogues, and books on bibliography; third, scientific works; fourth, geographical works; fifth, books of voyages and travels; sixth, local and town histories; seventh, Massachusetts histories, — occupying one compartment each. In the next four compartments — the fourteenth, fifteenth, sixteenth, and seventeenth — are arranged all histories of New England, and of other States of the Union; in the eighteenth, all historical works on other portions of America than the United States; in the nineteenth and twentieth, works on European and general history; and the twenty-first — the last compartment, on the right hand of the door on entering — is filled with miscellaneous books, not belonging properly to either of the above divisions. All our present shelf-room is crowded, and more provision must soon be made.

The Librarian would also call the attention of the Standing Committee to the fact, that we have now a considerable number of small but very valuable manuscripts, that should either be bound, or placed in cases prepared for them. Some ar-

rangement should be made for their better preservation, and for their more commodious use by members of the Society.

In regard to the Dowse Library, the Librarian has to report, that the rules regulating its use have been faithfully observed. The Dowse Library has attracted large numbers of visitors during the year, and beguiled many of our members to long hours of pleasant and profitable reading in its beautiful and attractive apartments. The books remain, at present, as they were placed, somewhat hurriedly and without any definite plan of arrangement, when first removed to this hall. The works are so various and miscellaneous in their character, that it is difficult to adopt, and carry out rigidly, any one principle of classification. The Committee associated with the Librarian for this purpose propose to arrange the library under seven general divisions. Beginning at the corner of the room on the right hand of the door of entrance, the first division will contain the works on American history, biography, literature, &c.; the second, the scientific, philosophical, and theological books; the third, English history, biography, and general literature; the fourth, English poetry, and dramatic literature; the fifth, translations of the ancient classics, and books relating to European continental literature; the sixth, general history, and miscellaneous works; the seventh, works on bibliography, and the history of literature. The busts will then be placed to correspond to this arrangement. The bust of Washington, for instance, will be placed as the presiding genius over the first division, — American history and biography; that of Franklin over the second, — scientific and philosophical works, &c. There are twenty-six compartments in the bookcases. These will be numbered, or marked by the letters of the alphabet. A sheet catalogue for each compartment will be made out, and placed in the drawer of each; by consulting which, any book can be easily found. The Committee hope to have this arrangement completed in the course of the next two months.

This being done, the Dowse Library can be considered as thoroughly in order; long to continue a monument to his fame, and an incentive to our labors.

Respectfully submitted.

S. K. LOTHROP,  
*Librarian.*

*Report of the Cabinet-Keeper.*

In compliance with the second section of the ninth chapter of the By-laws of the Society, the undersigned, as Cabinet-Keeper, presents the following Report of the condition of the museum under his charge:—

The articles appertaining to the museum of the Society consist of a cabinet of coins, medals, and other small articles, valuable for their historic relations; of a large collection of curiosities, illustrative of the habits and customs of the people of various foreign countries, and especially of the American aborigines; and also of many portraits of distinguished persons, and works of art.

The condition of the cabinet, and of the other parts of the museum, is not what it should be, owing to the want of proper accommodations, and of suitable cases for displaying the several articles. It is hoped, however, that the finances of the Society will soon warrant an expenditure of money adequate to the demands of the department, and that the attention of the Society will be early directed to its urgent necessities.

When suitable arrangements have been made for the display of articles of antiquarian and historical value, it is believed that large accessions will be made to the department, and that its objects of curiosity will form prominent matters of interest to persons visiting the Society's rooms.

Respectfully submitted,

NATHL. B. SHURTLEFF, *Cabinet-Keeper.*

Boston, 8 April, 1858.

The President nominated, as a new Publishing Committee, Messrs. Warren, Bowditch, Clifford, and Davis.

Mr. BOWDITCH, from the Committee on the Treasurer's accounts, presented a Report, giving a general statement of the receipts and disbursements of the past year, and of the present state of the finances of the Society; which was accepted.

Mr. LINCOLN, from the Committee appointed to nominate candidates for the several offices of the Society, reported the following list; and the persons therein named were elected; viz.:—

*President.*

HON. ROBERT C. WINTHROP, LL.D. . . . . BOSTON.

*Vice-Presidents.*

JARED SPARKS, LL.D. . . . . CAMBRIDGE.

HON. DAVID SEARS, A.M. . . . . BOSTON.

*Recording Secretary.*

REV. CHANDLER ROBBINS, D.D. . . . . BOSTON.

*Corresponding Secretary.*

JOSEPH WILLARD, A.M. . . . . BOSTON.

*Treasurer.*

HON. RICHARD FROTHINGHAM, JUN., A.M. . . . . CHARLESTOWN.

*Librarian.*

REV. SAMUEL K. LOTHROP, D.D. . . . . BOSTON.

*Cabinet-Keeper.*

NATHANIEL B. SHURTLEFF, M.D. . . . . BOSTON.

*Standing Committee.*

GEORGE LIVERMORE, A.M. . . . . CAMBRIDGE.

THOMAS ASPINWALL, A.M. . . . . BOSTON.

HON. EMORY WASHBURN, LL.D. . . . . CAMBRIDGE.

HON. LORENZO SABINE, A.M. . . . . ROXBURY.

CHARLES DEANE, A.M. . . . . CAMBRIDGE.

The President, in a few appropriate remarks, alluded to the decease of two of the Corresponding Members of the Society, — Lord Braybrooke, D.C.L ; and Rev. Philip Bliss, LL.D.

HON. LUTHER V. BELL, M.D., and Rev. WILLIAM S. BARTLET, were elected Resident Members, and Count JULES DE MENOU an Honorary Member, of the Society.

MR. WILLARD, from the Committee to whom was referred a manuscript, entitled "Some Account of the Dudleys of Massachusetts, by George Adlard, in which Cotton Mather's more Particular Account of Governor Dudley is brought to Light," made a written Report as follows:—

They have examined this "more particular account" of Governor Dudley, and have compared the manuscript with the printed life in the "Magnalia;" and are of the opinion, that it is the more particular account there referred to. Its style is that of Mather; and there are many parallel passages, showing a common origin and authorship in the two accounts. The manuscript is much more extended than the print, and contains sundry additional particulars and incidents touching Dudley's early training and subsequent career.

Mr. Adlard has added some interesting remarks upon the ancestry of the Dudleys, with copies of four Dudley wills of the sixteenth century (two of them from the Registry of the Prerogative Court of Canterbury, and two from the Registry of the Commissary Court of London), in proof of the ancestry of the Massachusetts Dudleys.

Your Committee further are of the opinion, that this "more particular account" of Governor Dudley, with the accompanying papers, is deserving of publication in the Society's Collections; provided that the original manuscript can

be obtained, which Mr. J. Wingate Thornton "discovered among some Dudley papers," and at one time had in his possession. We have applied to Mr. Thornton for this manuscript. He says, in answer, that he has "searched repeatedly but unsuccessfully for it;" but that there is another copy in the possession of Mr. Dean Dudley, with which Mr. Adlard's copy can be collated, and that he (Mr. T.) will cheerfully make the collation. Mr. Adlard thinks that the Society may fully rely upon his copy. In reply, the Committee have written to this gentleman, as follows; viz., "The Society is always desirous to collate with and print from the original manuscripts, whenever possible, because it assumes a responsibility for the authentic character of the materials, and the accuracy of the transcripts. We cannot but hope and believe that the original will yet be found. With this view, and with your permission, we will retain your manuscript for the present, subject to your order; trusting that we may yet be able to print your entire contribution," &c. To this letter of March 24th last no answer has been received.

Your Committee are not entirely satisfied of the strict verbal accuracy of the copy furnished by Mr. Adlard; and would not recommend a publication of his manuscript, unless an opportunity can be had of instituting a comparison with the original "more particular account." If this "account" should be placed in the possession of the Society, and be proved—as they have reason to suppose it would be—the veritable account written by Mather, they would recommend the publication. Meanwhile, they place Mr. Adlard's copies in the possession of the Society, subject to Mr. Adlard's order.

All which is respectfully submitted.

For the Committee,

JOSEPH WILLARD.